



Our Code of Ethics

«To protect and defend the interests of its members. To ensure that the wildlife and the ecology of our lake are protected. Finally, to promote and support partnerships between users of our great lake.»

...from words to action...

This document shows our willingness as members of the [Association des propriétaires du lac Poisson Blanc \(2014\)](#) to protect our natural environment and promote understanding between all members such as:

- 1.1) respect toward the natural environment;
- 1.2) mutual respect and cooperation between all of the lake's users;
- 1.3) respect with regards to the diversity of the nautical activities safely practiced here.

This code of ethics arises from several consultations with different associations and members. It contains all of our goals and rules. In other words, our code of ethics is the purpose of our association. Some would have wished for more coercive measures but that is not our choice. It is necessary to know that a code of ethics does not have force of law. Everyone is encourage, to adhere to it and, is responsible for ensuring that our common rules are knowed by all including your guests or renters on a daily basis.

1st principle: Navigation and sharing of our body of water

Knowing that the water level is low in Newton Bay and at the Bowman boat launch. Knowing, also, that large waves are eroding the banks, stirring up sediment, activating aquatic plant growth, damaging wharfs and can contribute to accidents (kayaks, canoes and swimmers). We ask you to be responsible for your waves.

Technically, we are asking all members that have recreational crafts, high performance motors that create strong wakes and those wishing to undertake nautical sports such as water skiing, wake boarding to:

- 1.1. Always verify if the water level of the lake is not high or above average;
- 1.2. Respect areas that have «NO WAKE» signs;
- 1.3. Go out on the big lake when there are line-ups of boats playing in the Newton bay area;

- 1.4. Always navigate slowly (5 km/h) when you are at or within 50 meters of the shore;
- 1.5. Yield to swimmers and non-motorized watercrafts. Consequently, the driver of a motorized craft must always manoeuvre in a respectful manner especially within the bays;
- 1.6. Swimmers are asked to remain within the 30-meter protection zone. If they wish to go outside of this zone, they are responsible for clearly signaling their presence;
- 1.7. Rafts must be safely installed within the 50-meter limit of the shores;
- 1.8. Four stroke engines are favoured as they pollute less;
- 1.9. Respect signage on buoys.

2nd principle : Sound level and other noises

On the water, sound and noise carry much further than in an urban setting. Everyone is invited to take this into consideration during his and her activities especially during July and August.

- 2.1 Motorized crafts and vehicles must have a properly working muffler;
- 2.2 Erratic driving with recreational vehicles near your neighbors (racing, speeding, riding back'n forth etc) or on the water (tight turns, wave jumping, tricks, etc.) is a source of noise for several members;
- 2.3 The sound level of all sound systems should be adjusted so as to not disturb people around;
- 2.4 In order to promote a harmonious coexistence, we are recommending to limit noisy activities (cutting the lawn, using a chainsaw, minor renovations, etc.) to between the hours of 9 am and 7 pm specially on weekends.

3rd principle : Respect of environmental rules from our municipalities

In order to take full advantage of our environment, it is of the outmost importance to respect certain regulations :

- 3.1. Septic systems must be emptied and inspected every four years for seasonal cottages and every two years for residents. These systems must be installed at over 30 meters from the lake's maximum level;
- 3.2. Ban on cutting grass or deforesting in the 15-meter zone of banks (from the water level's maximum height) except one or two corridors toward's the lake). A mandatory agreement will need to be negotiated with the old residents (those that were built within this limit) and new residents (that apply the new regulation) in accordance with the municipality and COBALI;
- 3.3. In order to avoid aquatic plant growth, do not use any fertilizers (even organic) within 100 meters of the banks;
- 3.4. Spreading pesticides is banned in all of Poisson Blanc's municipalities;

3.5. The use of soaps and cleaners containing phosphates is prohibited in all of Poisson Blanc's municipalities;

3.6. Do not fill your garbage bags with recyclables. Use small blue or clear bags to identify your recyclables to the sanitation workers and in doing this, helping the municipality reach its recycling quota;

3.7. Always clean your craft if you have used it in another body of water so as to not contaminate our lake with invasive plants.

4th principle : Good neighbouring and cooperation

4.1. Voluntary participation in chores organized by our association in order to make our environment more secure and comfortable to live in;

4.2. Participation in our neighborhood surveillance. It is important that each member show solidarity toward his neighbors in order to avoid theft or vandalism. A few tricks: 1) remember the make of your neighbors' cars and also exchange your telephone numbers 2) have a pencil and paper available in your car in order to take down a suspicious plate number or other information 3) take note of emergency telephony numbers: SQ: 310-4141, SOS Poaching: 1-800-463-2191, Urgence-Environnement (environmental emergency service) : 1-866-283-2333, SOPFEU (forest fires): 1-800-463-3389 and that of your municipality. 4) Always be vigilant in the face of suspicious situations during hunting season and during the off-season;

4.3. All domestic animals must remain on your property and must not constitute a threat to your neighbor;

4.4. Respect the municipality's meter with regards to camp fires. Not making any fires on the shore or banks since the ashes are a choice fertilizer for aquatic plants;

4.5. Always inform your immediate neighbors if you are planning on having fireworks, major renovations or large celebrations;

4.6. Avoid lighting up your property excessively in order to allow your neighbors to enjoy a starry sky.

We ask you that you explain our Code of Ethics to any renter or visitor on your property.